

***DISCUSSION DRAFT***

***This is a draft vision statement being reviewed for inclusion in the state solid-waste plan. It was developed based on input by local government, Department of Ecology and state Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) officials.***

**Washington State Solid Waste Plan**

**Draft Vision**

**A sustainable economic system exists, based on resource and energy conservation, pollution prevention, waste reduction and material reuse. The historically separate efforts to protect the environment and to promote economic development have merged.**

**Businesses** balance material and energy use with practices that reinvest in environmental capital, recognizing that such stewardship is the basis for their survival and profit.

**Individuals** recognize their role in achieving and maintaining sustainability as inhabitants and consumers. Consumers demand, are provided with, and choose goods and services with the lowest life-cycle impacts on energy and materials use.

**Government** economic development policies provide incentives to businesses and industry to achieve and maintain sustainability.

**Communities** create and sustain local systems that support growth within the limits of the environmental carrying capacity.